



# 2017 Solo Dance Series Complete Handbook

**GENERAL SOLO DANCE SERIES ANNOUNCEMENT,  
HANDBOOK AND TECHNICAL RULES FOR ATHLETES,  
COACHES, REFEREES, ACCOUNTANTS, JUDGES AND  
LOC/PARTICIPATING COMPETITION HOSTS**

2017 SEASON

*Solo Dance Series: February 1, 2017 – August 13, 2017*

*National Solo Dance Final: September 6 - 9, 2017*

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December 15, 2016

Dear parents, skaters and coaches,

On behalf of the Program Development Committee of U.S. Figure Skating, we are excited to announce the 2017 Solo Dance Series. From the first season through the sixth, the series has grown in both numbers and in skating quality. This is a testament to all of you: the coaches who have been enthusiastic and encouraging, the athletes who have worked incredibly hard, and most of all, the parents who get their children to the rink, sign them up for competitions, make sure the dress is finished and the skates are polished and most importantly, who are there through wins and losses, good performances and bad, smiles and tears. We congratulate all of you on making the program the success that it is today.

As we enter the sixth season of the series, please remember that the mission of the program is to provide a fun series of events that encourage skaters of all levels to try ice dancing and to give skaters who love ice dancing the opportunity to compete on a regular basis even though they may not have a partner. We always welcome constructive feedback and work very hard at the end of each season to find solutions that are the most fair to everyone in every section while keeping the program's mission in mind. Please be aware that each new development can bring new challenges and that decisions made have to be for the good of the entire program, not just for one athlete.

We would also like to remind skaters, parents, and coaches to be considerate and respectful to the judges, referees, accountants, announcers and music technicians. Without them we wouldn't be able to have a competition. They give up time from their families, friends, and jobs to sit in a rink for sometimes 8+ hours a day because they love our sport.

You will notice that in addition to resources for judges, an explanation of 6.0 judging is included in this year's handbook. Although the judges have gone through extensive trial judging experience and other training in order to be appointed a judge, this does not mean that everyone will be in complete agreement. That is why we have numerous judges on a panel. Skating, and especially solo dance, is still a subjective sport and everyone sees things slightly differently. The final result should be a consensus of everyone's opinions. If you don't understand the placements for the event, please have your coach ask the judges for feedback.

In closing, we hope that this year will be the best ever for solo dance and we wish all of the athletes good luck this season – skate your best and have fun!

Sincerely,

Mary-Elizabeth Wightman  
Vice Chair, Solo Dance Series

Elise Preston  
Chair, Program Development

# **General Solo Dance Series Competition Rules & Information**

## SECTION 1: GENERAL COMPETITION RULES

*Solo Dance Series competitions are U.S. Figure Skating nonqualifying competitions, as per Rule 3060 in the 2017 U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.*

### OVERVIEW:

U.S. Figure Skating is pleased to announce the 2017 Solo Dance Competition Series. This program began in the 2010-11 season and is open to individual skaters within the Eastern, Midwestern and Pacific Coast sections. Skaters participating in at least two competitions within their respective sections accumulate points based upon placement that will be used to determine qualification of individual skaters to the National Solo Dance Final.

The mission of this program is to provide a fun series of events to both encourage skaters of all levels to try ice dancing and to give skaters who love ice dancing the opportunity to compete on a regular basis even though they may not have a partner.

The Solo Dance Series will be conducted in accordance with the rules of U.S. Figure Skating as set forth in the 2017 U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook. Additionally, all participants will be expected to be U.S. Figure Skating members and abide by the Code of Ethics (GR 1.01) and the Code of Conduct (GR 1.02), as set forth in the 2017 U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.

### A. 2017 SOLO DANCE SERIES SEASON DATES

The 2017 Solo Dance Series season will run from February 1 – August 13, 2017 with the National Solo Dance Final being held September 6 - 9, 2017. Skaters can compete at participating nonqualifying competitions during the Series season timeframe to accumulate points based upon placement at each event.

### B. EVENTS TO BE SKATED

**Solo Pattern Dance Event:** The solo pattern dance event is comprised of two solo pattern dances at each level. A random draw will be held to determine the starting order. This event is offered at the preliminary through international solo dance levels. The points awarded will be based on the skaters' combined overall placement. (See page 21 for detailed explanation)

**Solo Combined Dance Event:** The solo combined dance event is comprised of a solo dance drawn at the competition from the two designated solo pattern dances selected by U.S. Figure Skating or a solo short dance (junior and senior only) and a solo free dance, with results combined together for an overall result. A random draw will be held to determine the starting order. The pattern dance competed will be separate from those in the solo pattern dance event and the results will not count towards the solo pattern dance event or results. This event is offered at the juvenile thru senior levels. The results from each segment are factored together to create an overall result. (See page 21 for detailed explanation for awarding of points.)

**Shadow Pattern Dance Event:** The shadow pattern dance event is comprised of one pattern dance at each level. A random draw will be held to determine the starting order. The dance will remain the same throughout the year. A team may be comprised of two females, two males or one female and one male. In any case, the steps skated shall be the lady's steps as specified in the 2017 U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook. This event is offered at the preliminary thru senior solo dance levels. The points awarded

will be based on the final placement of the dance skated. (See page 21 for detailed explanation for awarding of points.)

### **C. MUSIC**

Dance music selection for Pattern Dance events will be chosen from the Standardized music of the International Skating Union, per rule 6030 in the 2017 U.S. Figure Skating rulebook, and will be provided to the LOC by U.S. Figure Skating for use in the Solo Dance Series competitions.

### **D. AWARDS AND MEDALS**

Medals will be awarded to places first through third at each event. Medals/ribbons for fourth and fifth places are at the discretion of the LOC. Trophies may be awarded at the discretion of the LOC. At the National Solo Dance Final, medals will be awarded to places first through fourth following the results from championship round events only.

### **E. ELIGIBILITY TO COMPETE**

Athletes must be eligible members in good standing of U.S. Figure Skating, and may be members of the figure skating club of their choice. The section in which the skater competes and can qualify from will be based upon the location of the skaters' home figure skating club at the close of registration. Skaters may not switch sections during the season even if their home club changes. All participants will be expected to abide by the Code of Ethics (GR 1.01) and the Code of Conduct (GR 1.02), as set forth in the 2017 U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.

### **F. SERIES REGISTRATION**

Skaters interested in participating in the 2017 Solo Dance Competition Series will also need to complete the online Series registration form and pay a \$20.00 fee to U.S. Figure Skating between December 15, 2017 and April 1, 2017. This fee covers the solo pattern dance, the combined dance and the shadow dance events. For shadow dance events, skaters must designate their partner at the time of registration and must compete with that partner for the duration of the season. BOTH partners must register. The online form can be accessed on the Solo Dance Series webpage and by [clicking here](#).

**In order for skaters to earn points within the Series, they must be registered with U.S. Figure Skating as a participant prior to entering and competing in a Solo Dance Series Competition that you plan to earn placement points from.**

### **G. ENTRY FEES**

Entry fees **MUST** accompany each individual competition entry form(s). The form with the specified fees will be provided to the skaters and must be sent to the host club before the individual competition deadline. All skaters must register for the individual Solo Dance series competitions within the series through the LOC hosting each individual event.

Solo Dance Series event entry fees will be set by the LOC hosting the individual competition and will be listed within their announcement. Skaters are responsible for registering directly with each competition.

### **H. WARM-UP GROUPS**

Warm-up groups are at the discretion of the dance referee and skaters will be notified prior to the start of the event if there will be more than one warm up group.

### **I. GROUP SIZE PATTERN DANCE:**

Preliminary through Pre-Silver pattern dance groups will consist of not more than 10 skaters per group. If more than 10 skaters are entered in a solo pattern dance event at the preliminary through pre-silver levels, the skaters will be split as evenly as possible into as many groups as are necessary to keep each group no larger than 10 skaters total.

Silver through International pattern dance groups will consist of not more than 10 skaters. If more than 10 skaters are entered into one level, the skaters will be split as evenly as possible into as many groups as are necessary to keep each group no larger than 10 skaters total.

Combined Event and Short Dance groups will consist of not more than 10 skaters. If more than 10 skaters are entered into one level, the skaters will be split as evenly as possible into as many groups as are necessary to keep each group no larger than 10 skaters total.

Shadow Dance groups will consist of not more than 10 duos (2 side-by-side skaters) per group. If more than 10 duos are entered into a level, the duos will be split as evenly as possible into as many groups as are necessary to keep each group no larger than 10 duos total.

## **J. JUDGING SYSTEM:**

The 6.0 judging system will be used for all events and levels at the participating 2017 Solo Dance Series Competitions. The ISU judging system will not be used. You can find an explanation of the 6.0 judging system on the U.S. Figure Skating website at:  
<http://www.usfigureskating.org/Programs.asp?id=419>

Specific deductions and judging references may be found in the reference section of this handbook beginning on page 34.

### Notes on the conduct of the competition:

All dance events may be double-paneled at the discretion of the referee. *For all solo dance events, ladies will skate the ladies' steps and men will skate the men's steps, no exceptions. For shadow dance events – all skaters must skate the ladies' steps.*

## **K. SEQUENCES/PATTERNS SKATED AT COMPETITION:**

Competitors will perform the specified number of patterns for each dance in accordance to the rules as described in the 2017 U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook. The number of sequences skated for Pattern Dance events will be based on Rule 6075.

In the initial or final round of all dance competitions the number of sequences of the dance to be danced shall be as follows:

- A. Two sequences: Swing Dance, European Waltz, American Waltz, Tango, Starlight Waltz, Westminster Waltz, Argentine Tango, Austrian Waltz, Cha Cha Congelado, Yankee Polka, Ravensburger Waltz, Tango Romantica, Silver Samba, Golden Waltz, Midnight Blues and Finnstep.
- B. Three sequences: Dutch Waltz, Canasta Tango, Rhythm Blues, Cha Cha, Fiesta Tango, Hickory Hoedown, Willow Waltz, Ten Fox, Blues, Paso Doble and Viennese Waltz.
- C. Four sequences: Fourteenstep, Foxtrot, Rocker Foxtrot, Quickstep and Rhumba.
- D. Six sequences: Kilian.

All pattern dances should start on the judges' side unless directed otherwise by the referee.

## **L. COSTUME REQUIREMENTS**

The Solo Dance Series will follow all costume rules and requirements as stated for ice dance in the 2017 U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook. (Rules 6020-6023)

## **SECTION 2: EVENT RULES, TESTS, LEVELS AND EVENT REQUIREMENTS**

### **A. SOLO PATTERN DANCE EVENT**

The solo pattern dance event is comprised of two pattern dances at each level. A random draw will be held to determine the starting order. The specific dances at each level will be listed within the individual competition announcements and chosen by the host club. This event is offered at the preliminary through international solo dance levels.

The solo pattern dance competitors will compete two dances at each level, with the result from both dances being combined to create a final, overall result. Points will be awarded to each skater based on the skaters' combined overall placement of the two pattern dances. (Refer to page 21 , Awarding of Points.)

#### **a. TEST LEVEL FOR SOLO PATTERN DANCE:**

All skaters must either compete at their test level or one level above of their highest completed dance test. The test level is determined by a skater completing all of the dance tests within that level. Participants may test during the Series season without penalty.

The determination of level will be based upon test level as of the 2017 Series entry deadline of April 1, 2017 or when the skater submits their registration to be a solo dance series participant, *which ever date is earlier*\*\*.

Skaters may not change or move up levels in the 2017 Series once the deadline has passed and/or when they submit their registration to U.S. Figure Skating.

\*\* Test level may be either standard or solo dance. Adult dance, adult solo dance, master's dance and master's solo dance do not fulfill the testing requirements for this event.



**b. SOLO PATTERN DANCE EVENT LEVELS AND TEST REQUIREMENTS:**

Level	Requirement	Dances
Preliminary	No Test or passed Preliminary	Dutch Waltz Canasta Tango Rhythm Blues
Pre-Bronze	Passed Preliminary or Pre-Bronze	Swing Dance Cha Cha Fiesta Tango
Bronze	Passed Pre-Bronze or Bronze	Hickory Hoedown Willow Waltz Ten Fox
Pre-Silver	Passed Bronze or Pre-Silver	Fourteenstep European Waltz Foxtrot
Silver	Passed Pre-Silver or Silver	American Waltz Tango Rocker Foxtrot
Pre-Gold	Passed Silver or Pre-Gold	Kilian Blues Paso Doble Starlight Waltz
Gold	Passed Pre-Gold, or Gold	Viennese Waltz Westminster Waltz Quickstep Argentine Tango
International	Passed Gold or International	Cha Cha Congeldo Silver Samba Rhumba Yankee Polka Tango Romantica

**c. SOLO PATTERN DANCE ENTRY RESTRICTIONS:**

Each registered athlete may only compete in one level for the entire season.

**B. COMBINED DANCE EVENT**

The combined dance event is comprised of the following two events (as applicable by level):

- 1.) **For juvenile, intermediate and novice:** one of two solo pattern dances drawn at the competition from the two designated solo pattern dances selected by U.S. Figure Skating, as listed below.

**For junior and senior:** one solo short dance

- 2.) **For juvenile thru senior:** one solo free dance

The pattern dances competed in the combined dance event are separate from those in the solo pattern dance event and the results will not count toward the solo pattern dance event or results. This event is offered at the juvenile through senior levels.

The points awarded in the combined event will be based upon the skaters' combined overall factored placement from the pattern or short dance (depending on the level entered) and the free dance. (Refer to page 21, Awarding of Points.)

General solo free dance rules may be found in the reference section of this handbook.

**α. TEST LEVEL AND EVENT REQUIREMENTS FOR SOLO COMBINED EVENT:**

All skaters must either compete at their test level or one level above of their highest completed dance test. The test level is determined by a skater completing all of the dance tests within that level. Participants may test during the Series season without penalty.

**JUVENILE COMBINED EVENT:**

Test qualifications as of April 1, 2017 or when the skater submits their registration to be a solo dance series participant, whichever date is earliest. Skaters must have passed the standard preliminary solo or standard preliminary partnered pattern dance test or have passed the standard solo or partnered juvenile free dance test. Skaters must not have passed any pre-silver or higher solo or partnered pattern dance tests and must not have passed any solo or partnered free dance tests higher than the juvenile free dance.

**Pattern Dance Selection for Juvenile:** Willow Waltz and Ten Fox

*One of the above dances will be drawn for each competition. The chosen dance will be posted on the starting order. It will not be published prior to the posting of the starting order.*

**Free Dance Requirements for Juvenile:**

<b>Juvenile Solo Free Dance: 1:40 +/- 10 seconds</b>	
<b>MUSIC MUST HAVE AN AUDIBLE RHYTHMIC BEAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 10 SECONDS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM</b>	
<b><u>Music at this level is strongly suggested to be in the same rhythms as the U.S. Figure Skating test structure.</u></b>	
<b>Edge Elements</b>	One short edge element, <u>but no more</u> . The edge element must be held for a minimum of three seconds, but cannot exceed six seconds.
<b>Spin</b>	One <u>choreographic dance spin*</u> , but no more. Minimum of three revolutions on one foot. Spin combinations not permitted. *NO FLYING SPINS PERMITTED
<b>Step Sequence</b>	One step sequence from the following list: circular, midline or diagonal. The step sequence must fully utilize the ice surface and should include a variety of steps and turns and must include three-turns and Mohawks.  <b>Not permitted elements:</b> stops, pattern regressions, loops and jumps of more than one-half rotation, dance spins, and pirouettes.
<b>Twizzle</b>	One twizzle. Minimum one revolution.
<b>Dance Stop</b>	One full stop to express the character of the music, not to exceed five seconds. The stop must come at least 10 seconds after the start of the program and at least 10 seconds before the end of the program.

**INTERMEDIATE COMBINED EVENT:**

Test qualifications as of April 1, 2017 or when the skater submits their registration to be a solo dance series participant, whichever date is earliest. Skaters must have passed the standard bronze solo or standard bronze partnered pattern dance test or have passed the standard solo or partnered intermediate free dance test. Skaters must not have passed any silver or higher solo or partnered pattern dance tests and must not have passed any solo or partnered free dance tests higher than the intermediate free dance.

**Pattern Dance Selection for Intermediate:** Fourteenstep and European Waltz

*One of the above dances will be drawn for each competition. The chosen dance will be posted on the starting order. It will not be published prior to the posting of the starting order.*

**Free Dance Requirements for Intermediate:**

<b>Intermediate Solo Free Dance: 2:00 +/- 10 seconds</b>	
<b>MUSIC MUST HAVE AN AUDIBLE RHYTHMIC BEAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 10 SECONDS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM</b>	
<b><u>Music at this level is strongly suggested to be in the same rhythms as the U.S. Figure Skating test structure.</u></b>	
<b>Edge Elements</b>	Two short edge elements, <u>but no more</u> . The edge elements must be held for a minimum of three seconds, but not more than six seconds. <u>Edge elements should have different positions</u> ^.
<b>Spin</b>	One <u>choreographic dance spin</u> *, but no more. Minimum of three revolutions on one foot. Spin combinations not permitted. *NO FLYING SPINS PERMITTED
<b>Step Sequence</b>	One step sequence from the following list: circular, midline or diagonal. The step sequence must fully utilize the ice surface and should include a variety of steps and turns and must include three-turns, mohawks and brackets.  <b>Not permitted elements:</b> stops, pattern regressions, loops and jumps of more than one-half rotation, dance spins, and pirouettes.
<b>Twizzle Series</b>	One twizzle series. Minimum one revolution on each twizzle. No more than three steps between twizzles.
<b>Dance Stop</b>	One full stop to express the character of the music, not to exceed five seconds. The stop must come at least 10 seconds after the start of the program and at least 10 seconds before the end of the program.

**NOVICE COMBINED EVENT:**

Test qualifications as of April 1, 2017 or when the skater submits their registration to be a solo dance series participant, whichever date is earliest. Skaters must have passed at least one dance of the standard silver solo or standard silver partnered pattern dance test or have passed the standard solo or partnered novice free dance test. Skaters must not have passed any gold or higher solo or partnered dance tests and must not have passed any solo or partnered free dance tests higher than the novice free dance test.

**Pattern Dance Selection for Novice:** American Waltz and Rocker Foxtrot

*One of the above dances will be drawn for each competition. The chosen dance will be posted on the starting order. It will not be published prior to the posting of the starting order.*

**Free Dance Requirements for Novice:**

<b>Novice Solo Free Dance: 2:10 +/- 10 seconds</b>  <b>MUSIC MUST HAVE AN AUDIBLE RHYTHMIC BEAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 10 SECONDS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM</b>  <u><b>Music at this level is strongly suggested to be in the same rhythms as the U.S. Figure Skating test structure.</b></u>	
<b>Edge Elements</b>	One <u>combination</u> edge element – each edge must be held for a minimum of 3 seconds, but the total element must not exceed 12 seconds. And one short edge element held for a minimum of three seconds, but not to exceed six seconds. <u>No more than one combination and one short edge element permitted. Edge elements should have different positions.</u> ^
<b>Spin</b>	One <u>choreographic dance spin</u> *, but no more. Minimum of three revolutions on one foot. May change feet. *NO FLYING SPINS PERMITTED
<b>Step Sequence</b>	One step sequence from the following list: circular, midline or diagonal. The step sequence must fully utilize the ice surface and should include a variety of steps and turns and must include three-turns, mohawks, brackets and counters.  <b>Not permitted elements:</b> stops, pattern regressions, loops and jumps of more than one-half rotation, dance spins, and pirouettes.
<b>Twizzle Series</b>	One twizzle series. Minimum two revolutions on each twizzle. No more than three steps between twizzles.
<b>Dance Stop</b>	One full stop to express the character of the music, not to exceed five seconds. The stop must come at least 10 seconds after the start of the program and at least 10 seconds before the end of the program.

**JUNIOR COMBINED EVENT:**

Test qualifications as of April 1, 2017 or when the skater submits their registration to be a solo dance series participant, whichever date is earliest. Skaters must have passed at least two dances of the standard pre-gold solo or standard pre-gold partnered pattern dance test or have passed the standard junior solo or partnered free dance test. Skaters must not have passed any solo or partnered dance tests higher than the complete gold dance test and must not have passed any solo or partnered free dance tests higher than the junior free dance test.

**Short Dance Requirements for Junior:**

<b>Junior Solo Short Dance: 2:00 +/- 10 seconds</b>  <b>Music Requirements: Blues, plus one or more of the following rhythms: Swing or hip hop.</b>  <b>MUSIC MUST HAVE AN AUDIBLE RHYTHMIC BEAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 10 SECONDS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM</b>	
<b>Edge Element</b>	One short edge element. Must be held for a minimum of three seconds, but no more than six seconds.
<b>Step Sequence</b>	One circular or midline or diagonal step sequence. The step sequence must fully utilize the ice surface and should include a variety of steps and turns.  <b>Not permitted elements:</b> stops, pattern regressions, loops and jumps of more than one-half rotation, dance spins, and pirouettes.
<b>Twizzles</b>	One set of sequential twizzles. Two twizzles skated one right after the other with up to one step in between twizzles. May be skated anywhere in the program except in the required step sequence. Only one step between twizzles is allowed.
<b>Pattern Dance Requirement</b>	Two (2) Sequences of Blues, either skated one after the other or separately.  Step #1 of each Sequence must be skated on a different side of the ice surface.  <b>Timing:</b> The Pattern Dance Elements must be skated in strict time to the music with the start of the first step of pattern dance element section 1 on beat 1 of a four measure musical phrase. A Pattern Dance Element not started on the required beat must be penalized by judges with a reduction of 0.5 off the second mark.  The Pattern Dance Elements must be skated on the blues rhythm. The tempo of music throughout the pattern dance elements must be constant in accordance with the required tempo and character of the pattern dance: blues, i.e. 22 measures of 4 beats or 88 beats per minute, plus or minus 2 beats per minute.
<b>Additional Information</b>	Vocal music is permitted and only music with an audible rhythmic beat may be used. The music may be without an audible rhythmic beat for up to 10 seconds at the beginning of the program.  The concept and choreography must produce the feeling of a unified dance. The Pattern Dance Elements may be skated anywhere in the Short Dance and should be integrated into the composition of the dance so that there should

	<p>not be the feeling that there are just rhythms put together without thought of how they will fit together.</p> <p>After the clock is started with the first movement, the skater must not remain in one place for more than 10 seconds. During the program, either up to two full stops (duration must not exceed 5 seconds each) or up to one full stop (duration must not exceed 10 seconds) are permitted.</p> <p><b>The pattern must proceed in a generally constant direction and must not cross the long axis of the ice surface except once at each end of the rink (within no more than 20 meters from the barrier). Loops in either direction are permitted provided that they do not cross the long axis.</b></p> <p>Kneeling or sliding on two knees or sitting on the ice is not allowed and will be considered a fall by the judging panel. Touching the ice with hand(s) is not permitted.</p>
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**Free Dance Requirements for Junior:**

<b>Junior Solo Free Dance: 2:30 +/- 10 seconds</b>  <b>MUSIC MUST HAVE AN AUDIBLE RHYTHMIC BEAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 10 SECONDS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM</b>	
<b>Edge Elements</b>	<p>One <u>combination</u> edge element – each edge must be held for a minimum of 3 seconds, but the total element must not exceed 12 seconds. And two short edge elements held for a minimum of three seconds, but not to exceed six seconds. <u>No more than one combination and two short edge elements permitted. Edge elements must have different positions.</u><sup>^</sup></p>
<b>Spin</b>	<p>One <u>choreographic dance spin</u>*, but no more. Minimum of three revolutions on one foot. May change feet. *NO FLYING SPINS PERMITTED</p>
<b>Step Sequence</b>	<p>Two different step sequences, one selected from Group A and one selected from Group B.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Group A:</b> Straight Line Step Sequences – midline or diagonal</li> <li>• <b>Group B:</b> Curved Step Sequences (counterclockwise or clockwise) – circular or serpentine</li> </ul> <p>The step sequence must fully utilize the ice surface and should include a variety of steps and turns and must include brackets, counters, rockers and choctaws.</p> <p><b>Not permitted elements:</b> stops, pattern regressions, loops and jumps of more than one-half rotation, dance spins, and pirouettes.</p>
<b>Twizzle Series</b>	<p>Two different twizzle series, but no more.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Twizzle Series A:</b> Must have a different entry edge and different direction for the two twizzles. Minimum of two revolutions is required on each twizzle. No more than three steps are allowed between twizzles. Twizzles must be different than those used in Twizzle Series B.</li> <li>• <b>Twizzle Series B:</b> Must have two twizzles. Minimum of two revolutions is required on each twizzle. No more than three steps are allowed between twizzles. Twizzles must be different than those used in Twizzle Series A.</li> </ul>
<b>Dance Stop</b>	<p>Two full stops to express the character of the music, not to exceed five seconds. The stops must come at least 10 seconds after the start of the program and at least 10 seconds before the end of the program.</p>

**SENIOR COMBINED EVENT:**

Test qualifications as of April 1, 2017 or when the skater submits their registration to be a solo dance series participant, whichever date is earliest. Skaters must have passed the standard solo or standard partnered gold pattern dance test or have passed the standard senior solo or partnered free dance test.

**Short Dance Requirements for Senior:**

<b>Senior Solo Short Dance: 2:00 +/- 10 seconds</b>	
<b>Music Requirements: Music Requirements: Blues, plus one or more of the following rhythms: Swing or hip hop.</b>	
<b>MUSIC MUST HAVE AN AUDIBLE RHYTHMIC BEAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 10 SECONDS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM</b>	
<b>Edge Element</b>	One short edge element. Must be held for a minimum of three seconds, but no more than six seconds.
<b>Step Sequence</b>	One circular or midline or diagonal step sequence. The step sequence must fully utilize the ice surface and should include a variety of steps and turns.  <b>Not permitted elements:</b> stops, pattern regressions, loops and jumps of more than one-half rotation, dance spins, and pirouettes.
<b>Twizzles</b>	One set of sequential twizzles. Two twizzles skated one right after the other with up to one step in between twizzles. May be skated anywhere in the program except in the required step sequence. No more than 1 step between twizzles is allowed.
<b>Pattern Dance Requirement</b>	One section of the Midnight Blues, steps #5-#14 and one sequence of the Blues, either skated one after the other or separately.  Step #5 of Midnight Blues should be on the judges' side and step #1 of blues should be on the opposite side.  <b>Timing:</b> The Pattern Dance Elements must be skated in strict time to the music with the start of the first step of each pattern dance element section 1 on beat 1 of a three-beat measure musical phrase. A Pattern Dance Element not started on the required beat must be penalized by judges with a reduction of 0.5 off the second mark.  The Pattern Dance Elements must be skated on the blues rhythm. The tempo of music throughout the pattern dance elements must be constant in accordance with the required tempo and character of the blues, i.e. 22 measures of 4 beats or 88 beats per minute, plus or minus 2 beats per minute.
<b>Additional Information</b>	Vocal music is permitted and only music with an audible rhythmic beat may be used. The music may be without an audible rhythmic beat for up to 10 seconds at the beginning of the program.  The concept and choreography must produce the feeling of a unified dance. The Pattern Dance Elements may be skated anywhere in the Short Dance and should be integrated into the composition of the dance so that there should not be the feeling that there are just rhythms put together without thought of how they will fit together.



	<p>After the clock is started with the first movement, the skater must not remain in one place for more than 10 seconds. During the program, either up to two full stops (duration must not exceed 5 seconds each) or up to one full stop (duration must not exceed 10 seconds) are permitted.</p> <p><b>The pattern must proceed in a generally constant direction and must not cross the long axis of the ice surface except once at each end of the rink (within no more than 20 meters from the barrier). Loops in either direction are permitted provided that they do not cross the long axis.</b></p> <p>Kneeling or sliding on two knees or sitting on the ice is not allowed and will be considered a fall by the judging panel. Touching the ice with hand(s) is not permitted.</p>
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## Free Dance Requirements for Senior:

<b>Senior Solo Free Dance: 2:50 +/- 10 seconds</b>  <b>MUSIC MUST HAVE AN AUDIBLE RHYTHMIC BEAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF 10 SECONDS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAM</b>	
<b>Edge Elements</b>	Two <u>combination</u> edge elements – each edge must be held for a minimum of 3 seconds, but the total element must not exceed 12 seconds. And two short edge elements held for a minimum of three seconds, but not to exceed six seconds. <u>No more than two combination and two short edge elements permitted. Edge elements must have different positions.</u> <sup>^</sup>
<b>Spin</b>	One <u>choreographic dance spin</u> *, but no more. Minimum of three revolutions on one foot. May change feet. *NO FLYING SPINS PERMITTED
<b>Step Sequence</b>	Two different step sequences, one selected from Group A and one selected from Group B. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Group A:</b> Straight Line Step Sequences – midline or diagonal</li> <li>• <b>Group B:</b> Curved Step Sequences (counterclockwise or clockwise) – circular or serpentine</li> </ul> <p>The step sequence must fully utilize the ice surface and should include a variety of steps and turns and must include brackets, counters, rockers, choctaws and twizzles.</p> <p><b>Not permitted elements:</b> stops, pattern regressions, loops and jumps of more than one-half rotation, dance spins, and pirouettes.</p>
<b>Twizzle Series</b>	Two different twizzle series, but no more. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Twizzle Series A:</b> Must have a different entry edge and different direction for the two twizzles. Minimum of two revolutions is required on each twizzle. No more than three steps are allowed between twizzles. Twizzles must be different than those used in Twizzle Series B.</li> <li>• <b>Twizzle Series B:</b> Must have two twizzles. Minimum of two revolutions is required on each twizzle. No more than one step is allowed between twizzles. Twizzles must be different than those used in Twizzle Series A.</li> </ul>
<b>Dance Stop</b>	Two full stops to express the character of the music, not to exceed five seconds. The stops must come at least 10 seconds after the start of the program and at least 10 seconds before the end of the program.

\* *Choreographic Dance Spin – a dance spin on one foot with a minimum of 3 revolutions in a position that enhances the music and choreography. This element will be judged on how the spin relates to the music and the quality of the spin. Variations in positions will only be rewarded if they enhance the character of the music.*

<sup>^</sup> *Edge Elements must be of a different nature. For example, one spread eagle and one spiral as opposed to two spirals.*

### \*\* GRANDFATHER CLAUSE FOR COMBINED EVENT:

Any skater who has passed a solo free dance test prior to November 20, 2012, may skate at the level in which they qualify based upon their pattern dance test level requirements.

All skaters must compete at their test level or one level above their highest completed dance test. The determination of level will be based upon test level at the 2017 Series entry deadline of

April 1, 2017 or when the skater submits their registration to be a solo dance series participant, which ever date is earlier.

Adult pattern dance, adult solo pattern dance, adult free dance, master's dance, master's free dance and master's solo pattern dance do not fulfill the testing requirements for any events within the 2017 Solo Dance Series.

#### **b. COMBINED EVENT ENTRY RESTRICTIONS:**

Each registered athlete may only compete in one level for the entire Series season. Participants may test during the Series season without penalty, but cannot change or move up levels during the February 1 – September 9, 2017 Solo Dance Series season. Skaters who qualify to compete at the Final, must compete at the Final in the same level at which they competed throughout the 2017 Series.

The determination of level will be based upon test level as of the 2017 Series entry level deadline of April 1, 2017 or when the skater submits their registration to be a solo dance series participant, which ever date is earlier.

Skaters may not change Series levels once the deadline has passed or their individual form is submitted to U.S. Figure Skating.

\*\* Test level may be either standard or solo dance. Adult dance, adult solo dance, master's dance and master's solo dance do not fulfill the testing requirements for this event. All skaters must either compete at their test level or one level above, but no higher.

### **C. SHADOW DANCE EVENT**

The shadow pattern dance event is comprised of one pattern dance at each level. A random draw will be held to determine the starting order. The specific pattern dance at each level will be listed within the individual competition announcements. This event is offered at the preliminary through senior solo dance levels.

A team may be comprised of two females, two males or one female and one male. In any case, the steps skated shall be the lady's steps as specified in the 2017 U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.

Points will be awarded to each team based upon the team's final placement of the pattern dance. (Refer to page 21, Awarding of Points.)

#### **a. TEST LEVEL FOR SHADOW DANCE:**

All skaters must either compete at their test level or one level above their highest completed dance test. The test level is determined by a skater completing all of the dance tests within that level. Participants may test during the Series season without penalty.

The determination of level will be based upon test level as of the 2017 Series entry level deadline of April 1, 2017 or when the skater submits their registration to be a solo dance series participant, *which ever date is earlier.*\*\* Level is determined by the skater with the lowest test level. (i.e. Skater A has passed the complete Pre-silver dance test and Skater B has passed the complete Gold dance test; this team would be allowed to skate at the Juvenile level or one level up at the Intermediate level.)

Teams must remain the same throughout the season – skaters may not change partners during the season. Teams may not change or move up levels in the 2017 Series once the deadline has passed or when they submit their registration to U.S. Figure Skating. A skater can enter more than one level with different partners, however the same team cannot enter at different levels. Each team that qualifies to compete at the Final, must compete at the Final in the same level at which they competed throughout the Series.

\*\* Test level may be either standard or solo dance. Adult dance, adult solo dance, master's dance and master's solo dance do not fulfill the testing requirements for this event.

**b. SHADOW DANCE EVENT LEVELS AND TEST REQUIREMENTS:**

<b>Level</b>	<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Dance</b>
Preliminary	One partner must not have passed higher than the complete pre-bronze dance test.	• Rhythm Blues
Juvenile	One partner must not have passed higher than the complete pre-silver dance test.	• Cha Cha
Intermediate	One partner must not have passed higher than the complete silver dance test.	• Fourteenstep
Novice	One partner must not have passed higher than the complete pre-gold dance test.	• Rocker Foxtrot
Junior	One partner must not have passed higher than the complete gold dance test.	• Kilian
Senior	Open.	• Quickstep

**c. SHADOW DANCE ENTRY RESTRICTIONS:**

Each registered team may only compete in one level for the entire Series season. Skaters may skate with different partners at different levels. However, one skater may not compete at the same level with two different partners nor may the same team compete at two different levels. Participants may test during the Series season without penalty, but cannot change or move up levels during the February 1 – September 9, 2017 Solo Dance Series season.

## SECTION 3: AWARDING OF POINTS

### A. DETERMINING POINTS

Points will be awarded by U.S. Figure Skating based upon the 2017 Solo Dance Series Point Calculation Chart for Solo Pattern Dance and the Combined Event (see chart below).

#### PATTERN DANCE

The points awarded to each skater in solo pattern dance events will be based upon the skaters' combined overall factored placement of the two pattern dances. In the event that the factored placements are equal, the competition scoring system will break ties on the second dance. However, points will be awarded based on the actual placements of the first and second dances. Please see the TIES section on page 21.

#### COMBINED EVENT

The points awarded in the combined event will be based on the skaters' combined overall factored placement from the pattern dance or short dance and the free dance.

#### SHADOW DANCE

The points awarded in the shadow pattern dance event will be based on the final placement of the one dance skated.

**NOTE:** Following each Series season competition, points are awarded to the skaters by U.S. Figure Skating based upon their overall result.

Ties in Factored Place totals for solo pattern dance event will not be broken during the Series. Refer to the TIES section on page 21 for more information.

### B. TIES:

Ties in Factored Places (overall finish) in the solo pattern dance event will not be broken at the participating Series season competitions. In the case of a tie, skaters will share the available points.

For example, if competitors are tied for first place following both pattern dances, the skaters will share the points for first and second place based upon the following process:

To calculate their point earning in a group of four or more skaters, we will take the nine points for first place plus the eight points for second, add these numbers together; then divide by two so that each athlete would earn eight-and-one-half points (8.5 points) for their shared first place finish.

2017 Solo Dance Series Point Calculation Chart Solo Pattern Dance and Combined Event	
<b>1 skater</b>	
Dances/ Placement	All Levels
	POINTS AWARDED
1 <sup>st</sup>	3
<b>2 – 3 skaters</b>	
Dances/ Placement	All Levels
	POINTS AWARDED
1 <sup>st</sup>	7
2 <sup>nd</sup>	6
3 <sup>rd</sup>	5
<b>4 + skaters</b>	
Dances/ Placement	All Levels
	POINTS AWARDED
1 <sup>st</sup>	9
2 <sup>nd</sup>	8
3 <sup>rd</sup>	7
4 <sup>th</sup>	6
5 <sup>th</sup>	5
6 <sup>th</sup>	4
7 <sup>th</sup>	3
8 <sup>th</sup>	2
9 <sup>th</sup> & below	1

### **C. ADJUSTMENTS IN AVAILABLE POINTS DUE TO WITHDRAWS**

The number of athletes in an event will be based on entries as of *7 days prior to the start of the competition*; withdraws after this date will not affect the number of available points to the athletes who compete in the competition. The points will be awarded based upon the number of skaters listed on the skate order posted prior to the start of the competition.

Points will only be awarded to athletes who complete the competition. No points will be awarded to an athlete who withdraws for any reason or is not registered as a participant in the Series by the entry deadline of the competition or by the April 1, 2017 Solo Dance Series entry deadline.

## SECTION 4: QUALIFICATION TO THE 2017 NATIONAL SOLO DANCE FINAL

### A. HOW TO QUALIFY

At each Solo Dance Series competition, skaters will earn qualifying points based on their final, overall combined placement at the competition. Refer to Section 3: Awarding of Points on Page 21 for more details.

Skaters can compete at as many competitions during the Series season as they desire; however only the skater's best three point finishes will be used towards their total point accumulation.

**Skaters may earn and accumulate their best three qualifying point finishes from either:**

- a) Three (3) competitions within their section
- b) Two (2) competitions within their section **and** one(1) competition outside of their section

**Note:** Skaters must compete in AT LEAST two (2) competitions within their section to be eligible to advance to the National Solo Dance Final.

### WHO QUALIFIES TO RECEIVE AN INVITATION TO ADVANCE TO THE NATIONAL SOLO DANCE FINAL?

Following the conclusion of the season, those skaters in the solo pattern dance, combined event and shadow pattern dance events from each section that have competed in at least two Solo Dance Series participating competitions and meet the following criteria (specific to event type) will be invited to advance to the National Solo Dance Final competition (NSDF):

- 1.) SOLO PATTERN DANCE AND COMBINED EVENT ONLY:
  - a. Those skaters in each section who finish in the top six (6) places in each level will receive an invitation to advance to the National Solo Dance Final.
  - b. Those skaters who outright won (not tied) first place at a total of three or more competitions during the season, while competing in a group size of two or more (2+) skaters will also receive an invitation to advance to the National Solo Dance Final. A skater must have actual competition in order for a "win" to qualify as a "win". No matter when the other skaters withdraw, if a skater does not have any actual competition on that day, they may still earn points, but it will not count as a "win."
- 2.) SHADOW PATTERN DANCE EVENT ONLY:
  - a. Those shadow pattern dance teams in each section who finish in the top three (3) places in each level will receive an invitation to advance to the National Solo Dance Final.

A variation of a fill-up rule may be used if less than six skaters qualify to receive invitations to the NSDF at any particular level in the Series for the Solo Pattern Dance and Combined Events. This variation of the fill-up rule will be done at the discretion of the Program Development Committee Chair, National Vice Chair for Solo Dance and the U.S. Figure Skating Programs Manager.

### B. DECLINING AN INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

Following participation in the 2017 Solo Dance Series competitions, it is expected that skaters will compete in the National Solo Dance Final upon qualification. If a skater declines his/her invitation to compete in the National Solo Dance Final, he/she must notify Karissa Woienski, U.S. Figure Skating Programs Manager by the deadline on the online acceptance form that is sent out following the conclusion of the season. No alternates will be invited to attend under any circumstances.

### NATIONAL SOLO DANCE FINAL INFORMATION

The National Solo Dance Final information will be available no later than April 15, 2017 on the Solo Dance Series page of the U.S. Figure Skating website.

# **LOC/ Participating Competition Information**



## SECTION 5: PARTICIPATING SOLO DANCE SERIES COMPETITION INFORMATION

Each participating 2017 Solo Dance competition will need to include the following information within their individual competition announcements. WORD versions of these documents will also be available for the LOC/competition host to cut and paste for inclusion within the competition announcement.

Rather than require each LOC to list all of the Solo Dance Series specific information in their individual competition announcements, this handbook contains all the rules, details, specifics and guidelines that will be in effect for the 2017 Solo Dance Series. The information you list within your announcement will direct skaters and coaches to the Solo Dance Series Handbook where they can download the event rules and specifics that the Solo Dance Series competition events will be run in accordance with.

## SECTION 6: ITEMS NEEDED FROM PARTICIPATING SERIES COMPETITIONS

Thank you participating in the 2017 Solo Dance Competition Series. We appreciate your willingness to add the Solo Dance Series format into your nonqualifying event this season and appreciate your enthusiasm for this U.S. Figure Skating program.

**As soon as possible:** You must designate a solo dance referee. This person's responsibilities include:

- Work with the chief referee on the solo dance portion of the schedule as well as judging assignments.
- Choose which pattern dance will be skated for the juvenile, intermediate and novice levels of the combined dance event.
- Make sure the LOC has downloaded the correct music prior to the competition.
- Hold a pre-competition meeting with the panel to go over the rules for short dance and free dance.
- Make sure the judges on the panel have the correct requirements and deductions sheets.
- DURING THE SHORT DANCE AND FREE DANCE EVENTS: identify the elements to make sure they meet all requirements, including timing the edge elements and stops, and communicate any violations to the judging panel.
- Determining warm-up groups.

**Immediately following your event:** In order to help us calculate and post the point standings of the Solo Dance Series participants, below is a list of items we need for you to forward to us **immediately following the conclusion** of your competition (you can request these to be sent by your chief accountant). They need to be emailed to Karissa Woienski at [kwoienski@usfigureskating.org](mailto:kwoienski@usfigureskating.org), in electronic format for point calculation purposes at Headquarters:

- **PATTERN DANCE EVENT:**
  - The event results sheets from Solo Dance 1
  - The event results sheets from Solo Dance 2
  - The final placement result sheet (containing the overall combined scores from both dance 1 and 2)
- **COMBINED DANCE EVENT:**
  - The event results sheets from Pattern Dance (juvenile, intermediate, novice)
  - The event results sheets from Short Dance (junior, senior)
  - The event result sheet from the Solo Free Dance Event (juvenile-senior)
  - The final placement result sheet (containing the overall combined scores from both pattern dance or short dance and free dance)
- **SHADOW DANCE**
  - The event result sheets from the shadow dance events

**Format Needed for Results Submission:**

Please have your accountant send us the solo dance results in the following required formats:

- Club Report from Forms Central - the WORD version of the Club Report
  - Competition Survey Report (R4) from Hal2, found under the Competition Survey function
- Please submit all entry lists and result sheets to [kwoiensi@usfigureskating.org](mailto:kwoiensi@usfigureskating.org)

# **Information For Referees**

## SECTION 7: QUALIFICATIONS & DUTIES OF SOLO DANCE REFEREE

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Each competition in the series must designate a solo dance referee who is a sectional or higher dance referee (preferred) or a novice sectional or higher dance judge. In the case that neither are available, a gold test or higher dance judge may be designated as the solo dance referee, however they must complete a solo dance rules review prior to the competition.
- The referee must participate in or watch the solo dance webinar presented by U.S. Figure Skating.

### RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Work with the chief referee on the solo dance portion of the schedule as well as judging assignments.
- For competitions with combined dance events – choose which pattern dance will be skated for the juvenile, intermediate and novice levels.
- Make sure the LOC has downloaded the correct music prior to the competition.
- Hold a pre-competition meeting with the panel to go over the rules for short dance and free dance.
- Make sure the judges on the panel have the correct requirements and deductions sheets.
- DURING THE SHORT DANCE AND FREE DANCE EVENTS: identify the elements to make sure they meet all requirements, including timing the edge elements and stops, and communicate any violations to the judging panel.
- Determining warm-up groups with accountant. Alert the monitor should more than 1 warm-up group be necessary.
- Make sure to have two stopwatches on hand for short dance and free dance events – one to time the duration of the program and the other to time the edge elements and stop

## SECTION 8: SCHEDULING

We are well aware of the many constrictions on nonqualifying chief referees. The items below are only suggestions based on feedback from previous years.

- When possible, please do not schedule the two portions of the combined event more than one day apart.
- Please be aware that many of these skaters also compete in free skating events.
- When possible, please schedule at least five judges per panel.
- When possible, please make sure to assign higher level judges to the higher level events
- A referee can schedule an assistant referee or another person, preferably a dance technical specialist, but does not have to be a certified dance judge or official, to help with timing of the programs and elements.

### NON-NEGOTIABLE ITEMS

- For combined dance events – the free dance **MUST** be skated **AFTER** the pattern dance or the short dance.
- *Events with two pattern dances:* For any events with two pattern dances, the same judging panel must be used for PD1 and PD2.
- *Combined Events:* For combined events, the judging panels can be different for each segment.

## SECTION 9: WARM-UP GROUPS & WARM-UP TIMES

In order to standardize events so that the skaters know what to expect from one competition to the next, please use the following -

- Warm-up groups should be formed as follows:
  - Solo Pattern Dance Events:

- Preliminary – Bronze – no more than 8 skaters per warm-up group
    - Pre-Silver – International – no more than 6 skaters per warm-up group
  - Combined Dance Events:
    - Juvenile – no more than 8 skaters per warm-up group
    - Intermediate – Senior – no more than 6 skaters per warm-up group
  - Shadow Pattern Dance Events:
    - Preliminary – Juvenile – no more than 8 skaters (4 duos) per warm-up group
    - Intermediate – Senior – no more than 6 skaters (3 duos) per warm-up group
- Warm-up times as follows:
  - Pattern Dance Events & Shadow Pattern Dance Events – 1 minute without music, 3 minutes with music
  - Short Dance & Free Dance Events – 5 minutes

# **Information For Accountants**

## SECTION 10: INFORMATION FOR ACCOUNTANTS

### Solo Dance Series Accounting Reference Guide

This version is for the 2017 season

This guide is intended to be a resource for the accounting community for competitions having Solo Dance Series events. The Solo Dance Series is a program run by the Program Development Committee with the goal of keeping skaters in the sport, competing and having fun.

The Solo Dance Series season runs from February 1 through August 13, 2017 with the National Solo Dance Final taking place September 6-9, 2017. Skaters accrue points throughout the season in order to qualify for the National Solo Dance Final.

The 2017 Solo Dance Handbook (SDH) is available on the U.S. Figure Skating website -> Programs/Solo Dance Competition Series (<http://www.usfigureskating.org/Programs.asp?id=479>). This manual details information needed for this event and is updated every year before the season starts.

In addition, there are factor tables on Accounting Central (Forms, Charts and Procedures, IJS and 6.0 Factor Tables)

2017 Series Solo Dance 6.0 Factor Tables and  
National Solo Dance Final 6.0 Factor Tables - (This table will be updated after the season starts and in time for the National Solo Dance Final competition in September 2017)

Please be sure the correct factor table is being used. The Series table should be used for all of the competitions designated as part of the Solo Dance Series.

#### **General Setup Information:**

--->>> Please be sure to share this information with the competition/event referees as well as discuss starting orders, warm-up groups and dance rotation.

*Group Size:* All competitions hosting solo dance events as part of the Series are required to organize their Solo Dance Series event groups to a maximum size as specified below. This group size and standard division helps to ensure that skaters across the country participating in the Series have the potential to earn similar points at each competition.

- Preliminary through Pre-Silver Pattern dance groups will consist of not more than 10 skaters per group.
  - If more than 10 skaters are entered in a solo pattern dance event at the preliminary through pre-silver levels, the skaters will be split as evenly as possible into as many groups as are necessary to keep each group no larger than 10 skaters total.
- Silver through International pattern dance groups will consist of not more than 10 skaters.
  - If more than 10 skaters are entered into a level, the skaters will be split as evenly as possible into as many groups as are necessary to keep each group no larger than 10 skaters total.
- Combined Events will consist of not more than 10 skaters.
  - If more than 10 skaters are entered into a level, the skaters will be split as evenly as possible into as many groups as are necessary to keep each group no larger than 10 skaters total.
- Shadow Dance groups will consist of not more than 10 duos (2 side-by-side skaters).
  - If more than 10 duos are entered into a level, the duos will be split as evenly as possible into as many groups as are necessary to keep each group no larger than 10 duos total.
- There will be no final rounds.

*Order of the Segments:* In the Combined Dance Events the pattern dance must be skated BEFORE the free dance and the short dance must be skated BEFORE the free dance. This ensures that the competition will be set up correctly in HAL2 and that there is no confusion on the part of the skaters.

*ALL SKATERS must skate ALL SEGMENTS* of each event in order to receive a final placement. For pattern dance events, that means they must skate TWO pattern dances. For combined events, that means that they must skate EITHER one pattern dance and a free dance (for Juvenile through Novice) OR a short dance and a free dance (for Junior and Senior). If a skater cannot compete in all segments, they must be shown as withdrawn as of the first segment missed.

*Events with two pattern dances:* For any events with two pattern dances, the same judging panel must be used for PD1 and PD2.

*Combined Events:* For combined events, the judging panels can be different for each segment.

*Selection of the pattern dance for the combined event:* No later than one week prior to the start of the competition, the Referee will draw the dance from the dances stated in the 2017 SDH and notify the accountant and LOC of the selection. **The LOC should not publicize or share this selection; competitors will learn which dance has been selected when the starting order is posted.**

IMPORTANT

- *Withdrawals:* Points are awarded to each series skater based on the number of skaters in the event as of 7 days prior to the start of the competition. If there is a scratch within this 7-day period, please be sure the skater is withdrawn (deleted) in the starting order and NOT deleted from the skater's entries (Skaters' Name tab). The withdrawn skater will then show up on the results sheet.

*Draws, Warm-up Groups, Starting Orders*

- *Draws:* The first segment of the combined event (either pattern dance or short dance) will be a random draw. The free dance will also be a random draw.
- *Warm-up Groups:* The accountant and the referee need to discuss and decide if warm-up groups will be indicated on the starting order. At many competitions, the warm-up groups are not marked so there is flexibility should there be scratches and one warm-up group would be sufficient.
- *Starting order for PD2:* The starting order for PD2 may be rotated at the discretion of the referee; please check with the referee on whether rotation will be done. Dance rotation rules can be found at Rule 6074. If rotation is being done, it will be indicated on the starting order. If there are 4 or fewer skaters, the starting order will NOT rotate from PD1 to PD2.

**HAL2 Setup Information:**

There are 4 types of Solo Dance Series Events:

Pattern Dance	2 Pattern Dances
Combined	1 Pattern Dance + Free Dance
Combined	Short Dance + Free Dance (Junior & Senior only)
Shadow Dance	1 Pattern Dance

**Solo Pattern Dance Event**

1. This event consists of two pattern dances that are selected by the club (SDH, page 7, Section K).
  - a. A skater must compete in both dances in order to accrue series points.
2. Each Pattern Dance is assigned a component factor of 1.0. (6.0 Factor Tables-Solo Dance Series)
  - a. In Hal2 when creating the Event, the Type is Custom
  - b. Number of names per entrant is 1



- c. Under segment number 1, select Type as 2 Pattern Dances
- d. Under Dance/Figure/Moves, number 1 enter the 1<sup>st</sup> PD – factor defaults to 1.0
- e. Under Dance/Figure/Moves, number 2 enter the 2<sup>nd</sup> PD – factor defaults to 1.0
3. Hal2 will break a factored placement tie on PD2. (Calculating Results in the 6.0 System, Page 5, categories with one, two or three pattern dances).
4. Results from Hal2 for the Solo Dance Series Pattern Dance event will be posted at the competition.
5. These results are sent to HQ and points are awarded to the skater from their placement in a Pattern Dance event. Points are awarded based on the factored placement competition results, except in the case of skaters who share the same factored places.
 

*“For example, if competitors are tied for first place in Factored Places following both pattern dances, the skaters will share the points for first and second place based upon the following process:*

*To calculate their point earning in a group of five or more skaters, we will take the nine points for first place plus the eight points for second, add these numbers together; then divide by two so that each athlete would earn eight-and-one-half points (8.5 points) for their shared first place finish.”*
6. For pattern dances in the Solo Dance Series, all dances are weighted equally when it comes to calculating a skater's series points.
7. HQ does the calculations for the points based on the information sent in by the accountant.

For an example of how series points are calculated with factored placement ties, refer to the Appendix of this document section.

#### Combined Event – 1 Pattern Dance + Free Dance

1. The combined dance event is comprised of the following:
  - a. One pattern dance (designated by U.S. Figure Skating in the SDH, page 7, Section K) AND
 

**Note: competitors will learn which dance has been selected when the starting order is posted. The dance selected will not be communicated prior to the competition.**
  - b. A solo free dance
2. A skater must compete in both segments in order to accrue series points.
3. The Pattern Dance MUST be skated before the Free Dance.
4. The Pattern Dance is assigned a factor of 0.7 and the Free Dance is assigned a factor of 1.0 (6.0 Factor Tables-Solo Dance Series)
  - a. In Hal2 when creating the Event, the Type is Custom
  - b. Number of names per entrant is 1
  - c. Under Segment number 1, Type is Pattern Dance – segment factor defaults to 1.0 – change the PD factor to 0.7
  - d. Select the Pattern Dance to be skated
  - e. Under Segment number 2, select Free Dance – segment factor defaults to 1.0
5. Hal2 will break a factored placement tie on the FD segment. (Rule 1066).
6. Results from Hal2 for the Solo Dance Series Combined event will be posted at the competition.
7. These results are sent to HQ and points are awarded to the skater from their final placement in a Combined event.

#### Combined Event – Short Dance + Free Dance (Junior and Senior only)

1. The combined dance event is comprised of the following:
  - a. A solo Short Dance (Junior and Senior only) AND
  - b. A solo Free Dance
2. A skater must compete in both segments in order to accrue series points.
3. The Short Dance MUST be skated before the Free Dance.

4. The Short Dance is assigned a segment factor of 0.7 and the Free Dance is assigned a segment factor of 1.0 (6.0 Factor Tables-Solo Dance Series)
  - a. In Hal2 when creating the Event, the Type is Custom
  - b. Number of names per entrant is 1
  - c. Under Segment number 1, Type is Short Dance – segment factor defaults to 1.0 – change the SD factor to 0.7
  - d. Under segment number 2, select Free Dance – segment factor defaults to 1.0
5. Hal2 will break a factored placement tie on the FD segment. (Rule 1066).
6. Results from Hal2 for the Solo Dance Series Combined event will be posted at the competition.
7. These results are sent to HQ and points are awarded to the skater from their final placement in a Combined event

#### Shadow Dance

1. This event consists of one pattern dance that is selected by the club (SDH, page 16, Section C).
  - a. Two skaters (duo) will skate the dance – side by side i.e. “shadow”
  - b. Please be sure both skaters' names are listed for the event.
2. The Pattern Dance is assigned a factor of 1.0. (6.0 Factor Tables-Solo Dance Series)
  - a. In Hal2 when creating the Event, the Type should be Custom
  - b. Number of names per entrant is 2
  - c. Under segment number 1, select Pattern Dance – factor defaults to 1.0
  - d. Under Dance/Figures/Moves, number 1 select the dance being skated
3. Results from Hal2 for the Solo Dance Series Pattern Dance event should be posted at the competition.

#### Sending Competition Results to HQ

Karissa Woienski at Headquarters assigns and posts the point standings for Solo Dance Series skaters.

Please be sure to email her the following after each competition:

From Hal2 – Select Print, Competition Survey... Standings (R4) in PDF file format

\*\*Free PDF printer drivers to create a PDF file can be found in a variety of sites. Here is one that may be useful ->> <http://sourceforge.net/projects/pdfcreator/>

Questions regarding the Solo Dance Series should be directed to:

Karissa Woienski  
 U.S. Figure Skating Programs Manager  
 E-mail: [kwoienski@usfigureskating.org](mailto:kwoienski@usfigureskating.org)

Elise Preston  
 Chair, Program Development Committee  
 E-mail: [epreston@trumporg.com](mailto:epreston@trumporg.com)

## **Appendix**

Here is an example of how the series points are awarded to skaters when the factored places are equal in the Pattern Dance event only.

In 2012, the Chair of the Program Development Committee offers this explanation re breaking ties for Pattern Dance events.

"...our series will not break ties in pattern dance as we do not feel that one dance should be weighted higher than another in the same level for the purposes of this series. Points are awarded based upon the posted results at the competitions."

Hal2 broke the factored places tie on PD2 so Beth was 2nd and Caroline was 3rd.

With 7 skaters in this event, series points awarded ranged from 9 for 1st place to 3 for 7<sup>th</sup> place (SDH, page 16-point calculation chart).

Beth and Caroline have the same factored placement – 5.0. The series points available are 8-Beth and 7-Caroline. Since the factored placements are the same, the two skaters will share 15 points and each will receive 7.5 points for this event.

<b>points Available based on # skaters</b>	<b>Points Awarded</b>	<b>Placement per Hal</b>	<b>PD1</b>	<b>PD2</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Factored Places</b>
9	9	1	1	1	Abby	2.0
8	7.5	2	3	2	Beth	5.0
7	7.5	3	2	3	Caroline	5.0
6	6	4	6	4	Diane	10.0
5	4.5	5	5	6	Ethel	11.0
4	4.5	6	4	7	Franny	11.0
3	3	7	7	5	Ginny	12.0

# **Solo Series Reference Material**

The new kid on the ice dance competition block is solo ice dance, under the direction of the U.S. Figure Skating Program Development Committee. The purpose is to provide an opportunity for skaters without dance partners to enjoy competing against others across the country using the pattern dances set down in the test book, designing their own free dances, and short dances. The idea has grown immensely in five years from pilot status, to using local non qualifying competitions which offer solo dance events that qualify skaters to be invited to attend a National type of competition at the end of their designated season. Qualification is gained by obtaining points garnered as a result of their placement throughout the season in various local and out-of-area competitions.

The committee's goal is to produce a competitive program that is fun for the skaters as well as the audience in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Of course the skaters want to win and the coaches do their best to produce a quality skater that can reach the podium. In satisfying these needs it is our job to provide an organized and well-officiated competition. Our method used for judging is the 6.0 system which encompasses a variety of areas for dance and a variety of opinions regarding the importance of each area. The results have been scattered which indicates that the competitors at every level are difficult to separate because of the parity in the quality of the dancing. Therefore we were challenged to address composing guidelines for officials to peruse for the judging of pattern dances, free dances and short dances. While our judges are certainly aware of what is entailed in a mark for couples dancing, some features are more important for the solo dancer and with a new competitive discipline we need better specific definition of these so we are more unified in our thoughts as we produce our marks.

With this in mind, we respectfully offer these guidelines as an aid for solo dance competition officials, coaches and skaters as they head into the next season for solo pattern, free and short dance events. In addition, we are hopeful that we can find an opportune time for seminars to further discuss what the expectations are for a continuance of improved performance in each solo area. We do want to keep our competitions happy and successful gatherings in all respects.

# Preliminary Pattern Dances



Pattern dances will be awarded two marks. The first mark shall be for the technical score which encompasses the following: conformity of the steps of the dance; placement of the dance pattern; good style carriage and form; soft, flowing, continuous edges and turns skated deeply with cleanness and sureness. The second mark shall be for program components which encompass the following: overall skating quality; flow and glide; speed and power; ice coverage; body alignment; carriage and style; expression of the character of the rhythm; skating in time to the music; skating on the strong beat; skating on the prescribed beat values for each step; introductory steps.

**Timing is of utmost importance to every pattern dance.**

The following lists are focus points for each dance. They are not the only criteria that skaters will be marked on; however, they are critical aspects of each dance.

<b>Dutch Waltz</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Timing</li><li>• 2-1-3 timing of progressives</li><li>• Correct blade usage for stroking</li><li>• Progressives not slurred</li></ul>
<b>Canasta Tango</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Timing</li><li>• Defined chasse steps</li><li>• Correct posture on slide chasses</li></ul>
<b>Rhythm Blues</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Timing</li><li>• Step #8 – inside edge</li><li>• Precise cross behinds on Steps #14-#16</li></ul>

# Pre-Bronze Pattern Dances



Pattern dances will be awarded two marks. The first mark shall be for the technical score which encompasses the following: conformity of the steps of the dance; placement of the dance pattern; good style carriage and form; soft, flowing, continuous edges and turns skated deeply with cleanness and sureness. The second mark shall be for program components which encompass the following: overall skating quality; flow and glide; speed and power; ice coverage; body alignment; carriage and style; expression of the character of the rhythm; skating in time to the music; skating on the strong beat; skating on the prescribed beat values for each step; introductory steps.

**Timing is of utmost importance to every pattern dance.**

The following lists are focus points for each dance. They are not the only criteria that skaters will be marked on; however, they are critical aspects of each dance.

<b>Swing Dance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Defined chasse steps</li> <li>• Mohawk timing &amp; execution</li> </ul>
<b>Cha Cha</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Step #3 – inside edge</li> <li>• Step #5 – wide step</li> <li>• Step #6 – outside edge</li> <li>• Step #7 – correct foot placement</li> <li>• Correct edges on chasses</li> </ul>
<b>Fiesta Tango</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Steps #1 &amp; #2 – outside edges</li> <li>• Step #7 – crossed behind</li> <li>• Step #8 – actual change of edge</li> <li>• Steps #10 &amp; #11 – Mohawk timing and correct foot position</li> </ul>

# Bronze Pattern Dances



Pattern dances will be awarded two marks. The first mark shall be for the technical score which encompasses the following: conformity of the steps of the dance; placement of the dance pattern; good style carriage and form; soft, flowing, continuous edges and turns skated deeply with cleanness and sureness. The second mark shall be for program components which encompass the following: overall skating quality; flow and glide; speed and power; ice coverage; body alignment; carriage and style; expression of the character of the rhythm; skating in time to the music; skating on the strong beat; skating on the prescribed beat values for each step; introductory steps.

**Timing is of utmost importance to every pattern dance.**

The following lists are focus points for each dance. They are not the only criteria that skaters will be marked on; however, they are critical aspects of each dance.

<b>Hickory Hoedown</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Steps #3 &amp; #6 – outside edges</li> <li>• Three turn execution – good edges in and out of turn</li> </ul>
<b>Willow Waltz</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Step #8 (ladies) &amp; Step #14 (men) – turn on beat 3</li> <li>• Steps #18 &amp; #19 (ladies) &amp; Steps #5 &amp; #6 (men) – heel to instep mohawk</li> <li>• 2-1-3 timing on progressives and chasses</li> </ul>
<b>Ten Fox</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Step #9 (ladies) &amp; Step #8a (men) – timing &amp; execution</li> <li>• Steps #17 &amp; #18 (ladies) &amp; Steps #13 &amp; #14 (men) – timing &amp; execution</li> </ul>



# Pre-Silver Pattern Dances



Pattern dances will be awarded two marks. The first mark shall be for the technical score which encompasses the following: conformity of the steps of the dance; placement of the dance pattern; good style carriage and form; soft, flowing, continuous edges and turns skated deeply with cleanness and sureness. The second mark shall be for program components which encompass the following: overall skating quality; flow and glide; speed and power; ice coverage; body alignment; carriage and style; expression of the character of the rhythm; skating in time to the music; skating on the strong beat; skating on the prescribed beat values for each step; introductory steps.

**Timing is of utmost importance to every pattern dance.**

The following lists are focus points for each dance. They are not the only criteria that skaters will be marked on; however, they are critical aspects of each dance.

<p><b>Fourteenstep</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Steps #12 - #13 (ladies) &amp; Steps #8-#9 (men) – timing &amp; execution</li> <li>• Step #9 (ladies) &amp; Step #13 (men) – crossed</li> </ul>
<p><b>European Waltz</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• 3 turn placement – ladies at 2/3 of lobe, men at 1/3 of lobe</li> <li>• 3 turn turned on 3</li> </ul>
<p><b>Foxtrot</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Cross rolls on Steps #4 &amp; #9 (ladies &amp; men) and Step #5 (ladies)</li> <li>• Three turn timing – Step #5 (ladies) and Steps #4a &amp; #9 (men)</li> <li>• Steps #11 &amp; #12 – execution of Mohawk</li> <li>• Steps #13 &amp; #14 – inside edges</li> </ul>

# Silver Pattern Dances



Pattern dances will be awarded two marks. The first mark shall be for the technical score which encompasses the following: conformity of the steps of the dance; placement of the dance pattern; good style carriage and form; soft, flowing, continuous edges and turns skated deeply with cleanness and sureness. The second mark shall be for program components which encompass the following: overall skating quality; flow and glide; speed and power; ice coverage; body alignment; carriage and style; expression of the character of the rhythm; skating in time to the music; skating on the strong beat; skating on the prescribed beat values for each step; introductory steps.

**Timing is of utmost importance to every pattern dance.**

The following lists are focus points for each dance. They are not the only criteria that skaters will be marked on; however, they are critical aspects of each dance.

<b>American Waltz</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Three turn timing – on 4</li> <li>• Pendulum motion – even front to back</li> <li>• Execution of transitions</li> </ul>
<b>Tango</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Execution of cross steps</li> <li>• Step #7 (men) – rocker execution</li> <li>• Steps #20 - #21 – execution of Mohawk</li> </ul>
<b>Rocker Foxtrot</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Step #5 (ladies) – execution of rocker turn including turning on 2</li> <li>• Steps #5 &amp; #6 (men) – outside edges</li> <li>• Steps #10 &amp; #11 – outside edges</li> <li>• Steps #11-#12 – execution of Mohawk</li> </ul>

# Pre-Gold Pattern Dances



Pattern dances will be awarded two marks. The first mark shall be for the technical score which encompasses the following: conformity of the steps of the dance; placement of the dance pattern; good style carriage and form; soft, flowing, continuous edges and turns skated deeply with cleanness and sureness. The second mark shall be for program components which encompass the following: overall skating quality; flow and glide; speed and power; ice coverage; body alignment; carriage and style; expression of the character of the rhythm; skating in time to the music; skating on the strong beat; skating on the prescribed beat values for each step; introductory steps.

**Timing is of utmost importance to every pattern dance.**

The following lists are focus points for each dance. They are not the only criteria that skaters will be marked on; however, they are critical aspects of each dance.

<b>Kilian</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Steps #3 &amp; #4 – outside edges</li> <li>• Steps #9 - #10 – execution of Choctaw</li> <li>• Step #14 on 4</li> </ul>
<b>Blues</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Step #7 – centered</li> <li>• Steps #12 - #13 – timing &amp; execution of Choctaw</li> <li>• Step #15 – edge quality</li> <li>• Emphasis on depth of edge &amp; extension</li> </ul>
<b>Paso Doble</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Steps #8 - #9 – both feet on the ice</li> <li>• Steps #10-#11 – change of edge (#11) to boards</li> <li>• Steps #26-#28 – timing and execution of cross rolls</li> <li>• Step #28 (ladies) – on “and”</li> </ul>
<b>Starlight Waltz</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Step #9 – change of edge</li> <li>• Steps #12-#16 – execution of three turns</li> <li>• Step #17 – double lift on beat 4</li> <li>• Steps #19, #21, #24 (ladies) – execution of Mohawks</li> <li>• Step #28 (men) – CR three turn</li> </ul>

# Gold Pattern Dances



Pattern dances will be awarded two marks. The first mark shall be for the technical score which encompasses the following: conformity of the steps of the dance; placement of the dance pattern; good style carriage and form; soft, flowing, continuous edges and turns skated deeply with cleanness and sureness. The second mark shall be for program components which encompass the following: overall skating quality; flow and glide; speed and power; ice coverage; body alignment; carriage and style; expression of the character of the rhythm; skating in time to the music; skating on the strong beat; skating on the prescribed beat values for each step; introductory steps.

**Timing is of utmost importance to every pattern dance.**

The following lists are focus points for each dance. They are not the only criteria that skaters will be marked on; however, they are critical aspects of each dance.

<b>Viennese Waltz</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Steps #1-#3 &amp; #16-#18 – correct 1-1-3 timing</li> <li>• Steps #10-#11 (ladies) – timing and execution of Mohawk</li> <li>• Steps #9-#10 (men) – timing and execution of Choctaw</li> </ul>
<b>Westminster Waltz</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Step #3 – change of edge execution</li> <li>• Step #5#6 – execution of open Mohawk</li> <li>• Step #13 – execution of turn</li> <li>• Step #15 (ladies) – 3 turn timing</li> </ul>
<b>Quickstep</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Steps #5-#6 – execution of Choctaw</li> <li>• Steps #6 &amp; #17 – change of edge execution</li> <li>• Steps #7 &amp; #10 – cross behind execution</li> </ul>
<b>Argentine Tango</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Step #10 (men) – execution of counter</li> <li>• Steps #11 &amp; #31 – “and” timing</li> <li>• Step #23 (ladies) – execution &amp; timing of twizzle</li> <li>• Steps #23-#24 (men) – execution &amp; timing of Choctaw</li> <li>• Steps #27 - #31 – cross roll execution</li> </ul>

# International Pattern Dances



Pattern dances will be awarded two marks. The first mark shall be for the technical score which encompasses the following: conformity of the steps of the dance; placement of the dance pattern; good style carriage and form; soft, flowing, continuous edges and turns skated deeply with cleanness and sureness. The second mark shall be for program components which encompass the following: overall skating quality; flow and glide; speed and power; ice coverage; body alignment; carriage and style; expression of the character of the rhythm; skating in time to the music; skating on the strong beat; skating on the prescribed beat values for each step; introductory steps.

**Timing is of utmost importance to every pattern dance.**

The following lists are focus points for each dance. They are not the only criteria that skaters will be marked on; however, they are critical aspects of each dance.

<b>Cha Cha Congelado</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Steps #3 - #5 – execution &amp; timing of slip steps</li> <li>• Steps #23 - #24 – timing &amp; execution of Mohawk</li> </ul>
<b>Rhumba</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Step #3 – timing &amp; execution</li> <li>• Steps #11- #13 – timing &amp; execution of Choctaws</li> <li>• Step #14 – timing of 3 turn</li> </ul>
<b>Silver Samba</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Steps #10-#17 – timing &amp; execution of chasse steps</li> <li>• Steps #43-#47 – timing &amp; execution</li> <li>• Speed</li> </ul>
<b>Tango Romantica</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Step #1 – execution of helicopter turn</li> <li>• Step #9 – execution of change of edge and twizzle (ladies)</li> <li>• Steps #44-#45 (ladies) – execution of Choctaw through twizzle</li> </ul>
<b>Yankee Polka</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timing</li> <li>• Steps #7-#12 – deep edges</li> <li>• Step #16 – execution of three turn and change of edge</li> <li>• Steps #22-#23 – execution of Choctaw</li> <li>• Crisp steps – no two footing</li> </ul>

# Solo Pattern Dance Marking Guide



**Base marks are derived from assessing the quality of the following:**

**Technical Score:**

1. The conformity of the steps of the dance and their repetition with the dance diagrams and descriptions, which includes the accuracy with which the skater follows the stated requirements for the dance;
2. The placement of the steps of the dance on the ice surface;
3. Good style, carriage and form;
4. Soft, flowing, continuous edges and turns skated deeply with cleanness and sureness

**Program Components:** Skating Skills including overall skating quality, flow and glide, speed and power and ice coverage; Performance/Execution including body alignment, carriage and style; Interpretation including expression of the character of the rhythm; and Timing including skating in time with the music, skating on the strong beat, skating on the prescribed beat values for each step and introductory steps.

**General Deductions from Base Mark**

**Technical Score:**

- General technical mistake 0.1-0.4
- Violations of specific technical requirements 0.1-0.4 per error

*Stumbles, falls or interruptions*

When a disruption caused by a stumble, fall or other interruption occurs during a pattern dance, the dance shall be resumed at the nearest technically practical point in the sequence and not necessarily at the exact point of disruption. The nearest technically practical point must be *after the point of disruption*. The skater may not repeat any of the steps missed by the disruption or the judges shall deduct accordingly.

**Under 5 Seconds**

- Stumble or brief interruption 0.1
- Small – down and up 0.2

**Greater than 5 Seconds and part of the sequence omitted**

Dance With	Up to ½ Sequence	More than ½ Sequence	Whole Sequence
2 sequences	0.4-1.0	1.1-1.5	3.0
3 sequences	0.3-0.7	0.8-1.0	2.0
4 sequences	0.3-0.5	0.6-0.8	1.5
6 sequences	0.2-0.3	0.4-0.5	1.0

Deduction for repeating steps missed by stumble, fall or interruption 0.1

*A deduction for a stumble, fall or interruption is taken only from the first mark unless the timing or expression are affected, in which case a deduction may be taken from the second mark.*

**Program Components:**

- Violations of specific timing requirements for each dance 0.1-0.4 per error
- Skating out of time (maximum is for entire performance out of time) 0.1-1.0
- Skating on weak beat (maximum is for entire performance on weak beat) 0.1-0.5
- Lack of expression 0.1-0.4
- Introductory steps exceeding phrasing 0.1-0.2
- Inappropriate clothing (costume violation) 0.1

**Notes:**

**Introductions:** For all pattern dances, the introductory period may be up to 8 measures with an unlimited number of steps. Skaters exceeding an 8-measure introduction must be penalized by the judges.

**Centerline crossings:** in a regulation-sized rink (100' x 200') for pattern dances, the skaters may not cross the centerline of the rink. In rinks narrower than regulation size (less than 100' wide), the skater may cross the centerline up to one-half of the difference between the actual rink width and the 100' standard. For example, up to 7.5 feet on a surface 85' wide.

## Solo Free Dance Description

- A. A free dance is the skating of a creative dance program blending dance steps and movements expressing the character/rhythm(s) of the dance music chosen by the skater.
- B. The free dance must contain combinations of new or known dance steps and movements including required elements composed into a well-balanced, whole unit displaying excellent skating technique and the personal creativity of the skater in concept, arrangement and expression. A program consisting of a variety of turns such as brackets, counters, rockers, etc. will be considered of higher quality than one consisting of many crossovers, two foot skating, etc. The program, including required elements, must be skated in time and in phrase with the music. The skater should skate primarily in time to the rhythmic beat and not to the melody alone.
- C. The choreography should clearly reflect the dance character, accents and nuances of the chosen dance music with obvious, distinct changes of mood and pace with variations of speed and tempo. The program must utilize the full ice surface.
- D. The free dance must not have the concept of a free skating or show program.
- E. The music for solo free dance may be vocal, must be suitable for ice dance as a sport discipline and must have the following characteristics:
  - a. An audible rhythmic beat and melody, or audible rhythmic beat alone, but not melody alone. It may be without an audible rhythmic beat for up to 10 seconds at the beginning of the program.
  - b. All music, including classical music, must be cut/edited, orchestrated or arranged in a way that it creates an interesting, colorful and entertaining dance program with different dance moods or a building effect.
  - c. Must be suitable for the skater's skating skills and technical ability.
- F. All steps and turns are permitted. Deep edges and intricate footwork displaying skating skill, difficulty, variety and originality that constitute the distinct technical content of the dance must be included in the program. A program consisting of a variety of turns such as brackets, counters, rockers, etc. will be considered of higher quality than one consisting of many crossovers, two foot skating, etc. In the interest of the public in the arena, programs should be choreographed to all sides of the arena and not only focused on the judges' side.
- G. All elements and movements are allowed provided that they are appropriate to the character of the music and the concept of a well-balanced program and in accordance with the definition of the Dance Glossary in the tests book.
- H. The program must be developed through skating quality rather than through non-skating actions such as sliding on one knee or use of toe steps which should be used only to reflect the character of the dance and underlining rhythm and nuances of the chosen music.
- I. Kneeling or sliding on two knees, or sitting on the ice is not allowed and will be considered a fall.

## Illegal Elements/Movements in Solo Free Dance:

- A. Jumps of more than one-half revolution
- B. Lying on the ice

## Solo Free Dance – Cliffs Notes Version

- DO primarily use steps and turns to transition between elements
- DO NOT use too many crossovers
- DO reflect the character of the *dance*
- DO NOT make the program a free skating program without jumps
- DO NOT make the program feel like a showcase program
- DO use the accents and nuances of the music
- DO use music suitable to the skater's ability
- DO NOT kneel, slide on two knees, sit or lie on the ice
- DO NOT have jumps of more than one-half rotation

**MAKE SURE ALL MUSIC has an audible rhythmic beat with the exception of 10 seconds at the beginning**



# Solo Free Dance Marking Guide

**Base marks are derived from assessing the quality of the following:**

**Technical Score:** General technique (skating skills) – difficulty & variety, cleanness & sureness, depth of edges, flow, ice coverage, typical dance movements, inclusion of required elements

**Program Components:** music appropriate to ice dancing and rules, correct timing, interpretation expressive of chosen rhythms, style, harmonious choreography (reflects character, nuances, with change of pace, speed and tempo), utilizes ice surface

**General Deductions from Base Mark**

**Technical Score:**

Violation of required elements	0.1-0.4
Omission of required element	0.5
Other technical violations	0.1
Predominance of free skating moves	0.1-0.4

**Program Components:**

Music Incorrect	0.1-0.4
Timing Incorrect	0.1-1.0
Skating on weak beat	0.1-0.5
Interpretation/Expression incorrect	0.1-0.4
Poor style	0.1-0.4
Inappropriate choreography	0.1-0.4
Inappropriate clothing (costume violation)	0.1

**Deductions for Falls or Interruptions** (from technical score unless it affects components)

**Interruption up to 5 seconds**

Stumble or brief interruption	0.1
Fall	0.2

**Interruption continued for more than 5 seconds**

Medium (6-15 seconds)	0.4-1.0
Large (15+ seconds)	1.1-1.5

**Failure to Finish** (from both technical and components)

Every 10 seconds lacking (or in excess)	0.1
Program 30 seconds more or less	no marks awarded

**Deductions to be taken from Technical Score for Violations Pertaining to Required Elements**

Omission	0.5	Multiple errors for each required element	0.4 max
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DANCE SPIN		
Execution on 2 feet	0.1	<b>REWARD THE FOLLOWING</b>
Incorrect number of revolutions	0.1-0.2	<i>Shows character of chosen dance</i>
Execution not on the spot	0.1-0.2	<i>Entry is unexpected/creative</i>
More than ½ rotation on 2 feet during change (for combination spin)	0.1	<i>Body lines &amp; poses are aesthetically pleasing</i>
Dance spin in excess of permitted number	0.1 each	<i>Fits to the phrasing of the music</i>
Awkward pose	0.1	
Shows little relation to music/does not fit phrasing	0.1	

<b>TWIZZLES</b>		
Execution of turn incorrect in one twizzle	0.1 each	<b>REWARD THE FOLLOWING</b>
More than 3 steps in between	0.1	<i>Fast rotation of twizzle</i>
Stop(s) before either twizzle	0.1-0.2	<i>Fast movement across the ice</i>
Twizzle series A & B are identical or too similar	0.2	<i>Exit with running edge maintained (no immediate step down)</i>
		<i>Reflects character of the chosen dance</i>
		<i>Difficult/Creative entry</i>
		<i>Difficult/Creative position while turning</i>

<b>EDGE ELEMENTS</b>		
Longer than permitted duration	0.1-0.2	<b>REWARD THE FOLLOWING</b>
Shorter than permitted duration	0.1	<i>Reflects character of the chosen dance</i>
Unaesthetic position	0.1	<i>Creative/Unexpected entry</i>
		<i>Body lines aesthetically pleasing</i>
		<i>Fits phrasing of music</i>
		<i>Creative and enhances the choreography of the program</i>
		<i>Quality of edges, flow and ice coverage</i>

<b>STEP SEQUENCES</b>		
Pattern/placement incorrect or incomplete	0.1-0.2	<b>REWARD THE FOLLOWING</b>
Stop or retrogression	0.1	<i>Skating with good speed &amp; flow</i>
Inclusion of forbidden elements	0.1 each	<i>Difficult turns included &amp; done well</i>
Does not reflect the character of the chosen dance	0.1	<i>Second step sequence is performed at obviously different tempo than the first</i>
Is not skated to the rhythm pattern of the music	0.1	<i>Skated to the rhythm pattern of the music and reflects character of chosen dance</i>
Lack of flow	0.1	

<b>STOPS</b>		
Longer than permitted duration	0.1	<b>REWARD THE FOLLOWING</b>
Shorter than permitted duration	0.1	<i>Reflects character of the chosen dance</i>
		<i>Creative movements</i>

**If it is impossible to recognize a required element because of a fall it shall be counted as an omission – 0.5**

**If a required element has been started but not completed because of a fall – 0.2**

**If a required element has been started, briefly interrupted without a fall and resumed – 0.1**

## Solo Short Dance Description

- A. A short dance is a dance created by the skater to music with designated rhythms or themes. The dance must:
  - a. Reflect the character of the selected dance rhythms or themes.
  - b. Be translated to the ice by demonstrating technical skill with steps and movements along with flow and the use of edges, and
  - c. Fit the phrasing of the musicSkaters must skate primarily to the rhythmic beat. The dance will contain required elements specified for each level.
- B. The music for the short dance, including music for the specified pattern dance is to be provided by the skater. Vocal music is permitted. The music must have the following characteristics:
  - a. Only dance music with an audible rhythmic beat may be used. The music may be without an audible rhythmic beat for up to 10 seconds at the beginning of the program.
  - b. The music must be selected in accordance with the designated rhythms and/or themes.
  - c. The music must be selected in accordance with the specified tempo, where applicable. Short dance music that does not adhere to these specifications will be penalized by deductions.
- C. The pattern must proceed in a generally constant direction and may not cross the long axis of the ice surface except once at each end (within no more than 20 meters of the barrier). Loops in either direction are permitted provided they do not cross the long axis. However, crossing the long axis while performing the midline or circular step sequence or performing the circular step sequence in a clockwise direction does not constitute a violation of these provisions.
- D. All dance steps and turns are permitted, provided that they are appropriate to the designated rhythms and the music chosen. Repetition of any steps, turns or movements is permitted. Difficult, original, varied and intricate footwork is encouraged.
- E. After the clock is started with the first movement, the skater must not remain in one place for more than 10 seconds. During the program, either up to two full stops of up to 5 seconds each or one full stop up to 10 seconds are permitted.
- F. The program must be developed through skating skill and quality rather than through non-skating actions such as sliding on one knee or use of toe steps, which should only be used to reflect the character of the dance and underlining rhythm and nuances of the chosen music. Programs should be choreographed to all sides of the arena and not only focused to the judges' side.
- G. Touching the ice with the hand(s) is not permitted.
- H. Kneeling or sliding on two knees and/or sitting on the ice is not allowed and will be considered a fall.
- I. The concept and choreography must produce a feeling of a unified dance. The pattern dance elements may be skated anywhere in the short dance and should be integrated into the composition of the dance so that there should not be the feeling that there are just rhythms put together without thought of how they fit together.

# Solo Short Dance Marking Guide

**Base marks are derived from assessing the quality of the following:**

**Technical Score:** General technique (skating skills) – difficulty & variety, cleanness & sureness, depth of edges, flow, pattern, ice coverage, typical dance movements, inclusion of required elements

**Program Components:** music appropriate to ice dancing and rules, correct timing, interpretation expressive of chosen rhythms, style, harmonious choreography (reflects character, nuances, with change of pace, speed and tempo), utilizes ice surface

**General Deductions from Base Mark**

**Technical Score:**

Violation of required elements	0.1-0.4
Omission of required element	0.5
Other technical violations	0.1
Predominance of free skating moves	0.1-0.4

**Program Components:**

Music Incorrect	0.1-0.4
Timing Incorrect	0.1-1.0
Skating on weak beat	0.1-0.5
Interpretation/Expression incorrect	0.1-0.4
Poor style	0.1-0.4
Inappropriate choreography	0.1-0.4
Inappropriate clothing (costume violation)	0.1

**Deductions for Falls or Interruptions** (from technical score unless it affects components)

**Interruption up to 5 seconds**

Stumble or brief interruption	0.1
Fall	0.2

**Interruption continued for more than 5 seconds**

Medium (6-15 seconds)	0.4-1.0
Large (15+ seconds)	1.1-1.5

**Failure to Finish** (from both technical and components)

Every 10 seconds lacking (or in excess)	0.1
Program 30 seconds more or less	no marks awarded

**Deductions to be taken from Technical Score for Violations Pertaining to Required Elements**

Omission 0.5 Multiple errors for each required element 0.4 max

PATTERN DANCE ELEMENT		
Not holding edges/steps for the required number of beats – up to 10%	0.1	<b>REWARD THE FOLLOWING</b>
Not holding edges/steps for the required number of beats – 10% - 25%	0.2	<i>Good quality of turns &amp; steps</i>
Not holding edges/steps for the required number of beats – more than 25%	0.3	<i>Good accuracy of pattern</i>
Pattern Dance Element missed through interruption of up to ¼ element	0.3	<i>Deep edges</i>

<b>TWIZZLES</b>		
Execution of turn incorrect in one twizzle	0.1 each	<b>REWARD THE FOLLOWING</b>
More than 3 steps in between	0.1	<i>Fast rotation of twizzle</i>
Stop(s) before either twizzle	0.1-0.2	<i>Fast movement across the ice</i>
		<i>Exit with running edge maintained (no immediate step down)</i>
		<i>Reflects character of the chosen dance</i>
		<i>Difficult/Creative entry</i>
		<i>Difficult/Creative position while turning</i>

<b>EDGE ELEMENTS</b>		
Longer than permitted duration	0.1-0.2	<b>REWARD THE FOLLOWING</b>
Shorter than permitted duration	0.1	<i>Reflects character of the chosen dance</i>
Unaesthetic position	0.1	<i>Creative/Unexpected entry</i>
		<i>Body lines aesthetically pleasing</i>
		<i>Fits phrasing of music</i>
		<i>Creative and enhances the choreography of the program</i>
		<i>Quality of the edges, flow &amp; ice coverage</i>

<b>STEP SEQUENCES</b>		
Pattern/placement incorrect or incomplete	0.1-0.2	<b>REWARD THE FOLLOWING</b>
Stop or retrogression	0.1	<i>Skating with good speed &amp; flow</i>
Inclusion of forbidden elements	0.1 each	<i>Difficult turns included &amp; done well</i>
Does not reflect the character of the chosen dance	0.1	<i>Second step sequence is performed at obviously different tempo than the first</i>
Is not skated to the rhythm pattern of the music	0.1	<i>Skated to the rhythm pattern of the music and reflects character of chosen dance</i>
Lack of flow	0.1	

**If it is impossible to recognize a required element because of a fall it shall be counted as an omission – 0.5**

**If a required element has been started but not completed because of a fall – 0.2**

**If a required element has been started, briefly interrupted without a fall and resumed – 0.1**

# JUVENILE SOLO FREE DANCE REFEREE WORKSHEET

Skater #	Program Length (1:40 +/- 10)	Falls
Short EE 1 (3-6 sec)	Spin (min 3 rev, no combo)	Step Sequence
Twizzle (min 1 rev)	Dance Stop (5 sec max)	

Skater #	Program Length (1:40 +/- 10)	Falls
Short EE 1 (3-6 sec)	Spin (min 3 rev, no combo)	Step Sequence
Twizzle (min 1 rev)	Dance Stop (5 sec max)	

Skater #	Program Length (1:40 +/- 10)	Falls
Short EE 1 (3-6 sec)	Spin (min 3 rev, no combo)	Step Sequence
Twizzle (min 1 rev)	Dance Stop (5 sec max)	

# INTERMEDIATE SOLO FREE DANCE REFEREE WORKSHEET

Skater #	Program Length (2:00 +/- 10)	Falls
Short EE 1 (3-6 sec)	Spin (min 3 rev, no combo)	Step Sequence
Short EE 2 (3-6 sec)	Twizzle Series (min 1 rev ea)	Dance Stop (5 sec max)

Skater #	Program Length (2:00 +/- 10)	Falls
Short EE 1 (3-6 sec)	Spin (min 3 rev, no combo)	Step Sequence
Short EE 2 (3-6 sec)	Twizzle Series (min 1 rev ea)	Dance Stop (5 sec max)

Skater #	Program Length (2:00 +/- 10)	Falls
Short EE 1 (3-6 sec)	Spin (min 3 rev, no combo)	Step Sequence
Short EE 2 (3-6 sec)	Twizzle Series (min 1 rev ea)	Dance Stop (5 sec max)

# NOVICE SOLO FREE DANCE REFEREE WORKSHEET

Skater #	Program Length (2:10 +/- 10)	Falls
Combo EE (each edge min 3, max 12 total sec))	Spin (min 3 rev, may change feet)	Step Sequence
Short EE (3-6 sec)	Twizzle Series (min 2 rev ea)	Dance Stop (5 sec max)

Skater #	Program Length (2:10 +/- 10)	Falls
Combo EE (each edge min 3, max 12 total sec))	Spin (min 3 rev, may change feet)	Step Sequence
Short EE (3-6 sec)	Twizzle Series (min 2 rev ea)	Dance Stop (5 sec max)

Skater #	Program Length (2:10 +/- 10)	Falls
Combo EE (each edge min 3, max 12 total sec))	Spin (min 3 rev, may change feet)	Step Sequence
Short EE (3-6 sec)	Twizzle Series (min 2 rev ea)	Dance Stop (5 sec max)



# JUNIOR SOLO SHORT DANCE REFEREE WORKSHEET



Skater #	Program Length (2:00 +/- 10)	Falls
Short EE (3-6 sec)	Seq. Twizzles	Step Sequence
Pattern Dance Section 1	Pattern Dance Section 2	

Skater #	Program Length (2:00 +/- 10)	Falls
Short EE (3-6 sec)	Seq. Twizzles	Step Sequence
Pattern Dance Section 1	Pattern Dance Section 2	

Skater #	Program Length (2:00 +/- 10)	Falls
Short EE (3-6 sec)	Seq. Twizzles	Step Sequence
Pattern Dance Section 1	Pattern Dance Section 2	

# JUNIOR SOLO FREE DANCE REFEREE WORKSHEET



Skater #	Program Length (2:30 +/- 10)	Falls
Combo EE (each edge min 3, max 12 total sec))	Short EE 1 (3-6 sec)	Short EE 2 (3-6 sec)
Spin (min 3 rev, may change feet)	Straight Line Step Sequence	Curved Step Sequence
Twizzle Series 1 – diff entry edge/dir for twiz (min 2 revs ea.)	Twizzle Series 2 (min 2 revs ea)	2 Dance Stops (5 sec max)

Skater #	Program Length (2:30 +/- 10)	Falls
Combo EE (each edge min 3, max 12 total sec))	Short EE 1 (3-6 sec)	Short EE 2 (3-6 sec)
Spin (min 3 rev, may change feet)	Straight Line Step Sequence	Curved Step Sequence
Twizzle Series 1 – diff entry edge/dir for twiz (min 2 revs ea.)	Twizzle Series 2 (min 2 revs ea)	2 Dance Stops (5 sec max)

# SENIOR SOLO SHORT DANCE REFEREE WORKSHEET



Skater #	Program Length (2:00 +/- 10)	Falls
Short EE (3-6 sec)	Seq. Twizzles	Step Sequence
Pattern Dance Section 1	Pattern Dance Section 2	

Skater #	Program Length (2:00 +/- 10)	Falls
Short EE (3-6 sec)	Seq. Twizzles	Step Sequence
Pattern Dance Section 1	Pattern Dance Section 2	

Skater #	Program Length (2:00 +/- 10)	Falls
Short EE (3-6 sec)	Seq. Twizzles	Step Sequence
Pattern Dance Section 1	Pattern Dance Section 2	

# SENIOR SOLO FREE DANCE REFEREE WORKSHEET



Skater #	Program Length (2:50 +/- 10)	Falls
Combo EE 1 (each edge min 3, max 12 total sec))	Short EE 1 (3-6 sec)	Short EE 2 (3-6 sec)
Combo EE 2 (each edge min 3, max 12 total sec))	Straight Line Step Sequence	Curved Step Sequence
Spin (min 3 rev, may change feet)	Twizzle Series 1 – diff entry edge/dir for twiz (min 2 revs ea.)	Twizzle Series 2 – min 2 revs ea., only 1 step b/w
Dance Stop 1 (5 sec max)	Dance Stop 2 (5 sec max)	

Skater #	Program Length (2:50 +/- 10)	Falls
Combo EE 1 (each edge min 3, max 12 total sec))	Short EE 1 (3-6 sec)	Short EE 2 (3-6 sec)
Combo EE 2 (each edge min 3, max 12 total sec))	Straight Line Step Sequence	Curved Step Sequence
Spin (min 3 rev, may change feet)	Twizzle Series 1 – diff entry edge/dir for twiz (min 2 revs ea.)	Twizzle Series 2 – min 2 revs ea., only 1 step b/w
Dance Stop 1 (5 sec max)	Dance Stop 2 (5 sec max)	